

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADANA 00125 011226Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 USSS-00 SS-15 SP-02 SCS-06
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FM AMCONSUL ADANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1409
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
RUFLAEAAMCONSUL IZMIR 884
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

CONFIDENTIAL ADANA 125

E.O. 11652C GDS
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CGEN, TU, US
REF: ADANA 124

1. PER REFTEL, CALLED ON ADANA GOVERNOR TAHIR GENCAGE MAY 31 TO DISCUSS THE SECURITY SITUATION. FOUND HIM DISAPPOINTINGLY ILL AND MIS-INFORMED; HE HAD HEARD ONLY AND INACCURATELY (SEE REFTEL) THAT "SHOTS HAD BEEN FIRED IN THE AIR IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE."
2. IN GENERAL, THE GOVERNOR TOOK A VERY RELAXED ATTITUDE--CHARACTERIZING THE VIOLENCE PROBLEM AS "STUDENTS AGAINST STUDENTS IN THE CITIES." IN THIS

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CONNECTION, HE ASSERTED THAT THE COUNTRYSIDE AND THE EASTERN PROVINCES WERE ABSOLUTELY SECURE; TOURISTS COULD TRAVEL THERE FREELY WITHOUT SPECIAL CONCERN. HE DISMISSED RECENT JUSTICE PARTY CRITICISM OF THE SECURITY SITUATION AS POLITICIANS' TALK. WE SHOULD DEPEND ON THE ADMINISTRATORS FOR GUIDANCE. WHILE PLEASED TO RECEIVE THE GOVERNOR'S ASSURANCES, I
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CITED SEVERAL INCIDENTS THAT WOULD CONTINUE TO INDUCE ME TO ADVISE TOURISTS INFORMALLY NOT TO TRAVEL IN THE EASTERN COUNTRYSIDE AT NIGHT NOR TO CAMP AT REMOTE LOCATIONS.

3. I ALSO DESCRIBED BRIEFLY TO THE GOVERNOR ASPECTS OF THE POLICE INVESTIGATION WHICH SUGGESTED THAT THE PERPETRATOR(S) OF OUR SHOOTING WERE QUITE

PROFESSIONAL (SEE PARA 5 BELOW). HE ALSO PLAYED THIS DOWN, COMMENTING THAT ANY FIVE PEOPLE COULD MAKE A CONSPIRACY, BUT IF THEY HAD A SIXTH, THEIR PLANS WOULD PROBABLY LEAK.

4. COMMENT: GOVERNOR GENCAGA WAS EXTREMELY CORDIAL; HOWEVER, AS INDICATED, HE DID NOT SEEM TO TAKE

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MATTERS AS SERIOUSLY AS HIS PREDECESSOR. IN GENERAL, THE RESPONSIVENESS OF AUTHORITIES HERE MAY BE WILTING A BIT UNDER THE DAILY PRESSURE OF STUDENT VIOLENCE. FOR EXAMPLE, SECURITY DIRECTOR CAPIN TOLD US THAT THE RIOT POLICE RESOURCES IN ADANA WERE TOTALLY INADEQUATE. HE HAD 280 MEN IN THIS DIVISION TO CONTROL A STUDENT POPULATION OF THIRTY THOUSAND. HE HIMSELF HAD GOTTEN ONLY TWO HOURS SLEEP THE NIGHT OF MAY 28. CAPIN SAID THAT IF HE HAD KNOWN WHAT THE WORK LOAD WAS GOING TO BE LIKE HE WOULD NEVER HAVE COME TO ADANA.

5. INTERESTINGLY, AFOSI, WHICH HAS PROVIDED INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN COORDINATING INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS AT THE WORKING LEVEL, LEARNED THAT OUR SHOOTING HAD NOT EVEN BEEN REPORTED TO CENTRAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS AT OPENING OF BUSINESS MAY 29--IN OTHER WORDS THE

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HEQDQUARTERS FIRST LEARNED OF THE INCIDENT FROM OSI. (QUITE PROBABLY MAJOR STUDENT RIOTING WHICH STRAINED POLICE RESOURCES MAY 28-29 CAUSED THIS SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS.) HOWEVER, INVESTIGATIVE WORK NOW HAS

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PROCEEDED, AND MAY 29, THE POLICE FOUND THE CAR INVOLVED IN THE ESCAPE ABANDONED AND CONTAINING TWO EMPTY 9MM SHELL CASES. SIX SHELL CASES HAD ALSO BEEN FOUND NEAR THE CURB FRONTING THE CONSULATE. THE CAR HAD BEEN STOLEN, AND BORE COUNTERFEIT LICENSE PLATES WHICH COINCIDENTALLY (PERHAPS) HAD THE SAME NUMBERS AS A POV OWNED BY AN AMERICAN AT INCIRLIK. (NOTE: THIS POV HAD BEEN IN A DOWNTOWN REPAIR SHOP AND IT WAS INITIALLY PRESUMED THAT THE PLATES HAD BEEN STOLEN; HOWEVER, THE AMERIC'S CAR, WHEN CHECKED STILL HAD ITS PLATES.)
6. POST WILL FOLLOW-UP ON INVESTIGATION AND ADVISE SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION WHEN AND IF IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.

VON DEN STEINEN

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NNN

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